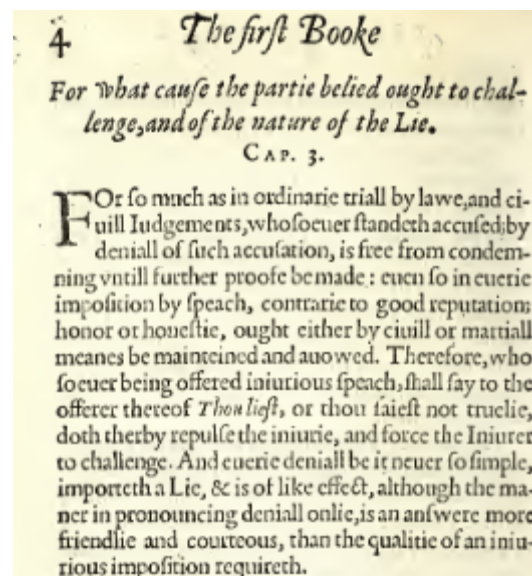




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## A Personal Knowing, A Question Of Personal Character

With the rise of what has been termed the Mass Media and, in recent decades, the Internet with its profusion of 'social media', 'podcasts', websites, 'blogs' and so on, it is all too easy for rumours, hearsay, and allegations, to be, often anonymously, made about an individual and communicated to a wide often world-wide audience, with hardly anyone - probably no one - accessing or reading or hearing such rumours, hearsay, and allegations personally knowing the individual in question and thus able, as is the fair, the cultured, thing to do, to ask them for 'their side of the story'.

In addition, with the advent of 'Artificial Intelligence' (AI) it has become relatively easy, with the right computer software, to produce altered or fake items, from photographs, to videos, to texts to documents.

The old-fashioned gentlemanly way of a challenge, *mano o mano*, to a duel was one corrective, albeit a minority one, to rumours, hearsay, allegations, and lies, regarding an individual and which rumours, hearsay, allegations, and lies, having been propagated by someone were then often believed by many others. {1}

One modern person who upheld this old-fashioned gentlemanly tradition in the wake of allegations and lies publicly made about him by certain individuals, is David Myatt, who had the imprudence, in the 1990s, to challenge two such individuals to a duel with deadly weapons. As he wrote:

"In respect of rumours and allegations, I have, on a few occasions, challenged some individuals to a duel with deadly weapons, according to the etiquette of duelling. Not one of the individuals so challenged to a duel had the honour to accept, or issue a public apology in lieu of fighting such a duel. As I wrote some thirteen or more years ago:

"I have never bothered to have recourse to civil law, and established Courts, to sue those making libellous allegations about me quite simply because the only law I believe in and strive to uphold is the law of personal honour. Given that I have challenged two journalists, according to the law of personal honour, to a duel with deadly weapons for making such malicious allegations, and given that they did not have the honour to accept this challenge or issue an apology in lieu of fighting a duel, I consider my honour vindicated."

Such challenges, the lack of evidence to support the allegations and rumours, and the refusal of those so challenged to a duel of honour to either fight that duel of honour or issue an apology, reveals the truth of this particular matter – at least to those possessed of *arête*." {2} {3}

## An Expectation

However, given human nature as it is, we expect that it will not be long before someone, or some many, possibly due to their zealous adherence to some political cause, produces fake or altered items or documents which the claimant or claimants will declare are 'proof' that David Myatt (DM) was Anton Long (AL) and did found the Occult association known by the acronyms O.N.A and O9A. {4}

Furthermore, such is our human nature, that it is only to be expected that perhaps a majority of people on reading or viewing such fake or altered items or documents will accept them as and believe them to be genuine and thus as 'proof' that DM=AL and founded the O.N.A, and that therefore, as his antagonists allege and have for decades alleged, he has lied and is lying about not being Anton Long and about not founding the O.N.A. Thus will those believers reveal the reality of their personal character.

For in such matters it is purely a question of character; of a personal knowing of a individual extending over a significant period of time. On making one's own judgment about an individual on the basis of such a personal knowing; with the fair, the cultured, thing to do, if a person does not have such a personal knowing of a individual, is to give that person the benefit of the doubt.

It is surely a sign of our modern, as of our past, times that so few in such matters as rumours, hearsay, lies and allegations, give the person who is the subject of, or subjected to such things, the benefit of the doubt.

Selann Ibotæ

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{1} On the matter of lies and duelling, qv. The first Booke, chapter 3, *For what cause the partie belied ought to challenge, and of the nature of the Lie*, The Booke of Honor and Armes, 1589.

"For so much as in ordinarie triall by lawe, and ciuill Iudgements, whosoeuer standeth accused; by deniall of such accusation, is free from condemning vntill further prooffe be made: euen so in euerie imposition by speach, contrarie to good reputation; honor or honestie, ought either by ciuill or martiall meanes be mainteined and auowed. Therefore, who soeuer being offered iniurious speach, shall say to the offerer thereof Thou liest, or thou saiest not truelie, doth therby repulse the iniurie, and force the Iniurer to challenge. And euerie deniall be it neuer so simple, importeth a Lie, & is of like effect, although the maner in pronouncing deniall onlie, is an answere more friendlie and courteous, than the qualitie of an iniurious imposition requireth."

Sources:

i) <https://archive.org/download/bookeofhonorarme00jone/bookeofhonorarme00jone.pdf>

ii) <https://ota.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/repository/xmlui/bitstream/handle/20.500.12024/A11862/A11862.html?sequence=5>

{2} *A Matter Of Honour*, 2013, <https://davidmyatt.wordpress.com/about/a-matter-of-honour-2/>

{3} Myatt even supplied them with a copy of the simple rules of duelling:

In a duel of honour, deadly weapons must be used. It is the deadly nature of the weapons used, with the possibility of death, which makes the encounter an honourable one. Deadly weapons include pistols, swords and long-bladed fighting knives of the Bowie type.

The duel is a private affair between the two individuals concerned. As such, only the nominated Seconds, and a referee - acceptable by both sides - must be present. It is against the etiquette of duelling for any other people to be present.

A person challenged to a duel must either personally accept the challenge, or decline the

challenge. It is dishonourable and cowardly conduct to ignore a challenge once it has been formally issued. If a person who is challenged declines the challenge, then they must issue a personal apology, and if necessary, or called upon to do so, a public apology.

A man of honour will only challenge to a duel those individuals whom he believes can physically defend themselves and their honour with deadly weapons. Thus, it is dishonourable and cowardly if someone who is challenged to a duel tries to get someone else to fight the duel on their behalf.

p.137, <https://archive.org/download/TheNuminousWay/dm-numinousway.pdf>

{4} The O.N.A and Myatt have already been the subject of one attempted 'deep fake', qv. <https://archive.org/download/o9a-deep-fakes/o9a-deep-fakes.pdf>

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Image Credit:  
The Booke of Honor and Armes, 1589

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